Waiving of FERA Provisions for development of Electronics Sector

3671. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank in its Report on the development of electronics industry in the country has suggested waiving of FERA regulations governing foreign collaboration; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the decision; if any, taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Whereabouts of an Intelligence Officer

3672. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one Shri Vineet Kumar, an Intelligence Officer, investigating into a specific case of economic offence, has been missing for quite some time;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) what steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to trace him;

(d) what was the case he was probing into at the time of his disappearance; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that the file relating to that particular inquiry has also been missing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (e) Shri Vineet Kumar, an Intelligence Officer of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has been missing since 24th April, 1987. Efforts made to trace him have not met with success. These efforts include: wide publicity through AIR|Doordarshan and through the Police Department.

Immediately before disappearing, he was making a routine investigation. Since then, the investigation has been completed and show cause notices have been issued. The file—relating to the investigation is not missing.

Illicit Arms Factory unearthed in Meerut

3673. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's *attention* has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 26th February, 1988 to the effect that an illicit arms factory has been unearthed in Meerut;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government against the culprits apprehended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. According to the report furnished by the State Government, on 24th February 1988, the police raided a farm-house in Sarangpur Village of Meerut district and recovered one country-made rifle of .315 bore, two country-made pistols of .315 bore, one country-made pistol of 12 bore and some incomplete arms and other tools used for making arms. Three persons are reported to

have been arrested and detained and an FIR No. 35/88 lodged at P.S. Kithore under Section 25/26 of Arms Act, 1959.

Seizure of Heroin in Delhi

3674. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Indian Express dated the 18th January 1988 wherein it has been stated that heroin worth Rs. 3 crores was seized in the Capital;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what action Government have taken in the matter; and

(d) the estimated value of heroin seized in the Capital during the months of January and February, 1988 and action taken against the culprits in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On 16 January, 1988 one scooter was intercepted and 2½ kgs. of heroin was recovered. On interrogation of the scooter rider, the house of another person was raided and 855 gms. of heroin recovered. Both of them have been arrested.

(d) In 85 cases reported in January, 1988, about 25 kgs. of Narcotics was seized and 87 persons arrested. During February, 1988; 55 such cases were reported and about 5 kgs. of Narcotics was recovered. 55 persons were arrested in cases reported in February, 1988.

It is not possible to give an estimate of value of the Narcotics seized as it varies with the place of sale and percentage of purity.

Evasion of Excise Duty by M/s. Godfrey Phillips (India) Ltd.

3675. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Godfrey Phillips (India) Limited, a cigarette manufacturing Company of Bombay has been found evading excise duty by one way or the other;

(b) if so, what is the estimated amount of excise duty evasion detected against the Company during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Company has also been continuously violating the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulatins Act;

(d) what is the amount of excise duty and income-tax outstanding against the Company at present; and

(e) what steps Government have taken to realise the outstanding amount and also the action taking against the Company for evasion of excise duty and violation of Foreign Exchange Regulations Act provisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) It is a fact that cases have been detected against M/s. Godfrey Phillips (India) Ltd. for evasion of Central Excise duty during the last three years.

The estimated evasion of excise duty detected for which show cause notices have been issued during the last three years is as follows:

Year	*Amount (in lakhs of Rs.)*
1985	18.48
1986	52 79
1987	6150 85